



January 31, 2005

# EQB Monitor

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHEETS

*Comments due on March 2, 2005*

### Ronald Haavisto Residential Subdivision

Description: The proposed project consists of subdivision of a 160-acre agricultural/wetland parcel into 41 single-family residential lots. The project is located in Sections 20 and 21, Township 39, Range 21, Pine County, approximately 1.5 miles northwest of the City of Pine City. Individual lots will be served by on-site sewer systems and individual wells. Approximately, 8,000 feet of road to be constructed to serve the proposed lots.

RGU: Pine County

Contact: Robert Pulford, Pine County Planning, Zoning and Solid Waste Department, 1610 Highway 23 North, Sandstone, Minnesota 55072; 320-245-6707, Email: [bbpulfor@co.pine.mn.us](mailto:bbpulfor@co.pine.mn.us).

### Milestone Crossing

Description: Milestone Crossing is a 114.8-acre 45-unit single-family rural residential development. Each lot will have individual septic treatment system and water well. All streets and the storm sewers will be public. Stormwater will be managed on-site.

RGU: City of Oak Grove

Contact: Sam Lucast, City Planner, 19900 Nightingale Street NW, Oak Grove, Minnesota

### ABOUT THE EQB MONITOR

The *EQB Monitor* is a biweekly publication of the Environmental Quality Board that lists descriptions and deadlines for Environmental Assessment Worksheets, Environmental Impact Statements and other notices.

The *EQB Monitor* is also posted on the Environmental Quality Board home page at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/>

Vol. 29, No. 3

Next issue: February 14, 2005  
Submission deadline: February 7, 2005

55011; 763-753-1920, Fax: 763-753-6271.

### Winona Commercial Harbor Improvement Project

Description: The Winona Port Authority is evaluating the expansion of the barge fleeting area in Winona Commercial Harbor. The expansion is needed to improve the safety of the harbor by diverting waiting barge traffic out of the main Mississippi River channel. The proposed dredge location is situated between existing fleeting areas.

RGU: Winona Port Authority

Contact: Judy Bodway, Director of Economic Development, 207 Lafayette St., Winona, Minnesota 55987; (507)457-8250, Fax: (507) 457-8212, E-mail: [jbodway@cityhall.luminet.net](mailto:jbodway@cityhall.luminet.net)

### County Road 2 Segment of the Elko-New Market Interceptor

Description: The Metropolitan Council is proposing to construct a 22-mile sanitary sewer segment of the Elko-New Market Interceptor in conjunction with Scott County's reconstruction of a portion of County Road 2 extending from County Road 91 to I-35 in the cities of Elko and New Market and New Market Township. The project will consist of the construction of approximately 10,000 feet of 48-inch pipe. After construction, the pipe will be temporarily plugged until construction of the remainder of the Elko-New Market Interceptor. No increase in flows will occur as a result of this project, as it represents the first leg of a separate project to be covered by a separate EAW that will address increases in flow and other service area conditions.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the MN Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following:

<http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: MN Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Eric Kilberg, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, MN Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-296-8643.



### Heron Lake BioEnergy, LLC

Description: Heron Lake BioEnergy, LLC proposes to construct a dry mill 200-proof fuel ethanol production facility (Facility) in Jackson County, with a maximum capacity of 55 million gallons per year. The Facility will produce 193,300 tons per year of distiller's dried grains with solubles (DDGS) as a co-product that will be used as animal feed. The Facility will operate using a coal combustion process. A thermal oxidizer will be used to control volatile organic compound emissions from several processes and tanks, including dryers, fermentation processes, and distillation processes. In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet (EAW), the MN Pollution Control Agency's draft Air Emissions Permit, draft National Pollution Discharge Elimination System Permit, and the draft Solid Waste Permit will also be available for public review and comment concurrently, beginning on January 31, 2005. The contact person for the Air Emission Permit is Mike Mondloch, 651-297-8593, and for the Discharge Permit is Deb Schumann, 651-297-5791.

Comments will be accepted on the EAW and permits until March 4, 2005. A public information meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, February 17, 2005, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Heron Lake Community Center, located at 312 - 10th Street in Heron Lake, Minnesota.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be posted on the MN Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: MN Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Jim Sullivan, Project Manager, Operations and Environmental Review Section, Regional Environmental Management Division, Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-297-1788.

### SKB Transfer Station, Blaine Environmental Campus

Description: SKB Environmental, Inc. is proposing to construct and operate a solid waste transfer station, which will be part of the Blaine Environmental Campus in Blaine, Minnesota. The new facility will process a maximum of 156,000 tons per year of municipal solid waste, non-hazardous industrial solid waste, and/or construction and demolition waste and up to 15,600 tons of yard waste per year. In addition to the Environmental Assessment Worksheet, the MN Pollution Control Agency's draft Solid Waste Permit will also be available for public comment concurrently. The contact person for the Solid Waste Permit is Geoffrey Strack at 651-296-7716.

Comments will be accepted on the EAW and permit until March 2, 2005.

A copy of the Environmental Assessment Worksheet will be

posted on the MN Pollution Control Agency Web site, at the following: <http://www.pca.state.mn.us/news/eaw/index.html>

RGU: MN Pollution Control Agency

Contact: Lynne Kolze, Project Manager, Environmental Review and Operations Section, Regional Division, Pollution Control Agency, 520 Lafayette Road N., St. Paul, Minnesota 55155; 651-296-6703.

### Brentwood Hills Development

Description: This 129-acre Brentwood Hills development is proposed to the north of Pleasant Lake and CSAH 6 and immediately west of Interstate Highway 94 in the City of Rockville. The development will include 186 single family units served by city sewer and water. The project will have one access point along CSAH 6, and 82<sup>nd</sup> and 83<sup>rd</sup> Avenues.

RGU: City of Rockville

Contact: Rena Weber, City Administrator, 209 Broadway Street East, P.O. Box 93, Rockville, Minnesota 56369; 320-229-5879, Fax: 320-240-9620

### Rockville 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation Upgrade

Description: Great River Energy (GRE) and Stearns Electric Association (SEA) are planning a transmission system upgrade that will meet the growing electrical demand and improve the service and reliability of electric facilities in the Rockville, Minnesota area. GRE will construct and own approximately 3.75 miles of new 115 kV transmission line and SEA will upgrade its existing Rockville Substation from 34.5 kV to 115 kV.

RGU: Stearns County

Contact: Don Adams, Director, Stearns County Environmental Services, 705 Courthouse Square, Rm. 343, St. Cloud, Minnesota 56303; 320-656-3613 or 800-450-0852, Fax: 320-656-6484.

### Pinnacle Outlet Mall

Description: This proposed project consists of the development of a retail outlet shopping mall consisting of retail stores, restaurants, a hotel and the associated parking lot accommodations situated within approximately 56.32 acres in the City of Bemidji, Minnesota. The project also includes the extension of city water and sewer services approximately ½ mile.

RGU: City of Bemidji

Contact: Curt Oakes, City Planner, 317 -4<sup>th</sup> Street N.W., Bemidji, Minnesota 56601; 218-759-3579, Fax: 218-759-3590.

## PETITION FILED

The following petitions have been filed with the EQB requesting preparation of an EAW. The EQB has assigned

the indicated unit of government to review the petition and decide on the need for an EAW.

- St. Thomas Revised Campus Expansion, City of St. Paul

## EAW NEED DECISIONS

The noted responsible governmental unit has made a decision regarding the need for an EAW in response to a citizen petition.

- St. Louis County Planning Commission, Longfellow's Retreat on Vermilion Subdivision Plat, Ordered

## EIS NEED DECISIONS

The responsible governmental unit has determined the following projects do not require preparations of an EIS. The dates given are, respectively, the date of the determination and the date the EAW notice was published in the EQB Monitor.

- Central Minnesota Ethanol Coop Biomass Gasification Project, MN Pollution Control Agency, January 19, 2005 (November 22, 2004)
- Helgeson Granite Quarry, Sauk Rapids Township/City of Sauk Rapids Joint Planning Board, December 22, 2004 (November 8, 2004)
- Mayo Creek 1<sup>st</sup> Addition, Cass County Planning Commission, December 28, 2004 (November 8, 2004)
- Trunk Highway 7-29 in Montevideo, Chippewa County, January 10, 2005 (July 5, 2004)
- Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Rosemount Interceptor, MN Pollution Control Agency, January 6, 2005, (November 8, 2004)
- Lake Mary Villas, Douglas County, January 19, 2005 (November 8, 2004)

## DRAFT AUAR AVAILABLE

### Growth Area for South and East Moorhead AUAR

Description: The Growth Area for South and East Moorhead AUAR is being prepared to address the cumulative impacts of future development in Moorhead. The AUAR will explore the impacts of development based on the City's Comprehensive Plan and Growth Area Plan. The Growth Area Plan proposes a mix of residential, commercial, public/institutional, and parks/open spaces. The Draft AUAR examines impacts to natural and cultural resources, surface water drainage, roadway systems and traffic, utilities and other infrastructure systems.

Copies of the Draft AUAR are available for review at Moorhead City Hall, 500 Center Avenue, Moorhead; the Moorhead Library, 118 S 5th Street, Moorhead; the Fergus Falls Public Library, 205 E. Hampden, Fergus Falls; and on

the City's website at [www.ci.moorhead.mn.us](http://www.ci.moorhead.mn.us). The City's Comprehensive Plan and the Growth Area Plan are also available for review on the City's web site or at City Hall. All written comments should be submitted to Mr. Hutchins on or before March 2nd, 2005

RGU: City of Moorhead

Contact: Scott Hutchins, Director of Community Services, 500 Center Avenue, Box 779, Moorhead, Minnesota, 56561; phone (218) 299-5376; fax (218) 299-5399; Email: [scott.hutchins@ci.moorhead.mn.us](mailto:scott.hutchins@ci.moorhead.mn.us).

## NOTICE

### Recreational Trails Rulemaking

#### Hermantown Hearing Rescheduled

The public hearing scheduled for the evening of January 12, 2005 at the Hermantown Public Safety Training Facility, 5111 Maple Grove Road, Hermantown, which was cancelled due to adverse weather, has been rescheduled for 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 16, at the same location. For more information about this rulemaking visit the EQB website ([www.eqb.state.mn.us](http://www.eqb.state.mn.us)) or see the *EQB Monitor* issues for November 22 or December 6, 2004, or January 17, 2005.

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, DRAFT EIS AVAILABILITY AND PRE-HEARING DRAFT EIS INFORMATION MEETINGS

Xcel Energy Split Rock Substation to Lakefield Junction Substation 345 kV and 115 kV Transmission Line Project, Docket No.: 03-73-TR-XCEL

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Minnesota Environmental Quality Board (EQB) will hold a Public Hearing on an application by Xcel Energy for a route permit for two new high-voltage transmission lines and a new substation in Southwest Minnesota.

To make public participation easier, multiple sessions of the hearing will be held at the following four dates and locations in southwest Minnesota:

- Lakefield Senior Citizen Center, 112 South Main Street, March 1, 2005
- Wilmont Community Center, 316 4th Avenue, March 2, 2005
- Luverne Rock County Library, 201 West Main Street, March 3, 2005
- Chandler City Center, 241 4th Street, March 4, 2005

There will be an afternoon session and an evening session at each location. The afternoon session will convene at 2:00 p.m. and an evening session will convene at 7:00 p.m.

**Project Description** Xcel Energy has proposed to construct two new high-voltage transmission lines crossing Rock, Nobles, Jackson, and Murray Counties in Southwest

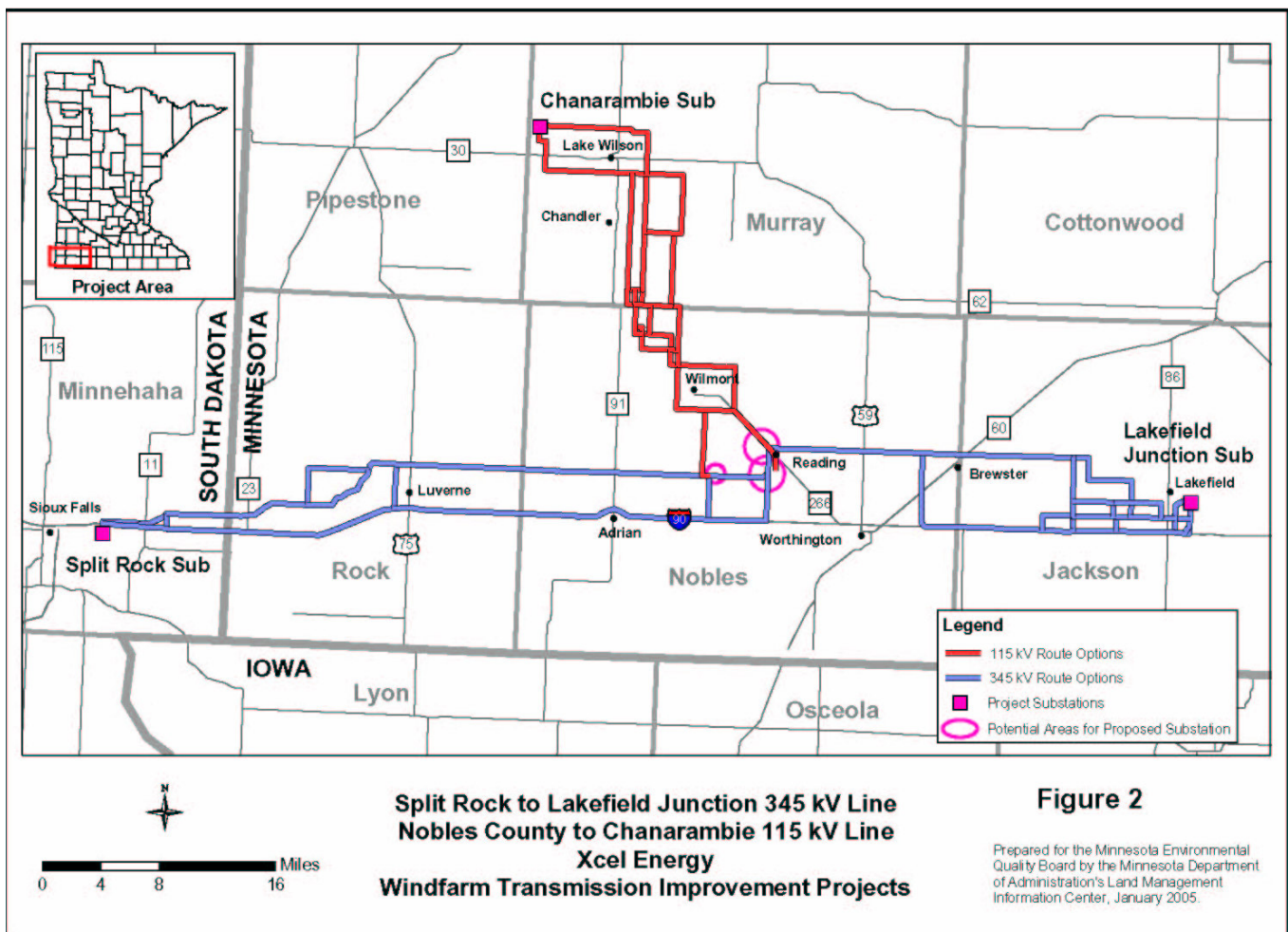
Minnesota. The primary purpose of the new transmission lines is to increase the outlet capacity for wind energy off Buffalo Ridge. The larger of the two lines is an approximately 86-mile long 345-kV line running east-west from the Split Rock Substation near Sioux Falls, South Dakota, through Rock County and Nobles County, and ending at the Lakefield Junction Substation in Jackson County, MN. The other is a new 115-kV transmission line that will run approximately 40-miles northwest from a new substation near Reading, Minnesota in Nobles County to the existing Chanarambie Substation in Murray County. The proposed route permit also includes designation of a site for the Nobles County Substation, which will interconnect the two new transmission lines.

Administrative Law Judge Allan Klein (ALJ) will preside at the hearing. Judge Klein's address is Office of Administrative Hearings, 100 Washington Square, Suite 1700, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401 2138, phone (612) 341-7609. The Office of Administrative Hearings has adopted rules that apply to EQB public hearings like this one. Minn. Rules chapter 1405. The applicable statutes and rules can be found on the web page of the Office of Administrative Hearings. [www.oah.state.mn.us](http://www.oah.state.mn.us)

**Right to Intervene:** Any person may seek to intervene as a full party to this proceeding. If a person desires to intervene, the person should file a document called a Petition for Intervention with the ALJ by February 4, 2005.

**Prehearing Conference.** A prehearing conference telephone call will occur on Friday, February 4, 2005, commencing at 10:00 a.m. Each party and each person who has filed a Petition to Intervene is entitled to participate in the call. Other members of the public may monitor the call to the extent that lines are available. Parties, petitioners and other interested persons should contact Michael Lewis, a Staff Attorney at the Office of Administrative Hearings, at 612-341-7610 by the close of business on Thursday, February 3, to learn the procedures for participating in the call. The prehearing conference call is an informal planning meeting where the parties can raise and resolve a number of issues such as the scheduling of witnesses, the numbering and status of exhibits and a variety of other logistical issues for the hearing.

**Environmental Impact Statement** The EQB has prepared a draft EIS on the proposed project. The draft EIS describes the Xcel Energy proposal and compares potential impacts of the various routes under consideration for the new



transmission lines and substation. A copy of the draft EIS, the permit application, and other material are available for public review at the following libraries: Rock County Library (Luverne), Adrian Library, Nobles County Library (Worthington), Jackson County Library (Lakefield), Fulda Memorial Library, Slayton Public Library; and Chandler City Hall.

The draft EIS and is also available upon request from the EQB at 651-296-2571 or at <http://www.eqb.state.mn.us/Docket.html?Id=6466>. (The shorter “summary and conclusions” section of the draft EIS is also available.)

- Luverne Rock County Library, 201 West Main Street, February 2, 2005
- Lakefield Senior Citizen Center, 112 South Main Street, February 8, 2005
- Reading Community Center, 26991 200th St, Reading, February 9, 2005

Each of these pre-hearing information meetings will be held from 4:00 p.m to 8:30 p.m using an open-house format in which you are invited to stop by when it is most convenient, to review the proposed project and maps, review and comment on the draft EIS, learn more about the upcoming hearing, and ask questions. Each meeting will also include a brief EQB staff presentation at 7:00 p.m, followed by an open public comment opportunity.

EQB Public Advisor Questions about this project, about the pre-hearing information meetings, or about how to participate in the hearing can be directed to the EQB public advisor George Johnson (651-296-2888); [george.johnson@state.mn.us](mailto:george.johnson@state.mn.us). The public advisor is available to answer questions about the hearing procedure and how to effectively participate, but he does not provide legal advice.

**Draft EIS Comment Due Date:** The EQB wants the best information possible for this route decision. Formal comments on the accuracy and completeness of the draft EIS will be accepted until Tuesday, February 22, 2005.

Comments on the draft EIS should be sent by e-mail or U.S. mail to: John N. Wachtler, 3rd Floor Centennial Building, 658 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55155, Email: [john.wachtler@state.mn.us](mailto:john.wachtler@state.mn.us)

Pre-Hearing draft EIS Information Meetings Scheduled. EQB rules also require a pre-hearing public information meeting to accept comments on the draft EIS, answer questions, and provide information on the upcoming hearing process:

The EQB staff will hold pre-hearing information meetings at the following three dates and locations in southwest Minnesota:

Notifications of Release of Genetically Engineered Organisms				
File Number	Company	Crop	Project	County
05-NO-001	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerance and Insect Resistance	Yellow Medicine Cottonwood (2)
05-NO-002	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerance and Insect Resistance	Goodhue (2)      Rice, Kandiyohi, Renville (2)
05-NO-003	Monsanto	Corn	Insect Resistance	Goodhue (2), Clay (2), Rice, Kandiyohi, Renville (2)
05-NO-004	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerance and Insect Resistance	Goodhue (2), Clay (2), Rice, Kandiyohi, Renville (2)
05-NO-005	Monsanto	Corn	Herbicide Tolerance and Insect Resistance	Nobles

For more information contact Mary Hanks, Minnesota Department of Agriculture, 90 W. Plato Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55107, 651/296-1277, [mary.hanks@state.mn.us](mailto:mary.hanks@state.mn.us) .



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